

Kirsty Williams AM/AC  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg  
Cabinet Secretary for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA(P)/0452/17

Lynne Neagle AM  
Chair – Children, Young People & Education Committee

6 February 2017

Dear Lynne,

### Education Performance Framework

At the CYPE Committee session on 12 January I promised to send a note on the *Education Performance Framework* for the EIG, which I enclose below.

We have trialled the Education Performance Framework in 2016-17 as part of the monitoring arrangements for the Education Improvement Grant for Schools (EIG). The framework was introduced with the intention of moving the grant to a more outcome focused arrangement.

The framework identifies three high level, overarching aims, in support of which consortia and their local authorities are required to identify key performance indicators and measurable outcomes as part of their business planning process. These should support our education strategy, Qualified for Life.

The three high level requirements within the framework are that local authorities will continue working under the agreed National Model for Regional Working leading to:

- Improving teaching and learning;
- Improving education outcomes, including literacy and numeracy, at Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 for all learners in all settings. This includes for example those learner groups who are known to be at particular risk of underachievement for example, but not limited to, as relating to gender, or those with Additional Learning Needs, English and Welsh as an Additional Language, or from certain ethnic minority groups such as Gypsy Traveller learners; and
- Improving outcomes for learners in receipt of Free School Meals and to narrow the gap between nFSM and eFSM.

The introduction of the current performance framework reflected the desire to work with consortia and local authorities to understand the ways in which evidence and data can be collected rather than impose a national approach.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

As I outlined on the 12<sup>th</sup> January in the CYPE Committee session, I will await the Committee's final report, but on this matter it is clear that we need to look again at how we align our performance management for consortia and local authority spend against our national priorities. Whilst this applies specifically to the EIG I believe that there may be opportunities when we launch our refreshed Qualified for Life to look at the challenges of achieving a genuine outcomes focussed framework more widely in education.

Consortia accept there is variability in the information gathered at a regional level, and they have committed to work with my officials to review how information is currently gathered. I look forward to receiving the Committee's report.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kirsty Williams AM/AC**  
**Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Education**